

REPORT

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CLASSIFICATION

RESTRICTED

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equipment, two mowing machines, one grain harvester, hand weeders, three hay turners, and one hay combine which turns and collects hay.

The following people work on this farm: a manager, an assistant, one guard, one tractor driver, six allowed workers, five permanent workers, 12 seasonal workers, and, in periods of peak work load, about 10 local workers are hired.

Three head of cattle are usually pastured on one hectare of fattening pasture land. Young cattle above one year gain an average of .75 kilogram per day per head (averaged over a period of 4 years). If the pasture is good, it is sufficient to add one kilogram of chopped straw and one kilogram of dried beet cuttings or of potato flakes per head per day. There are 19 separate pastures. The entire pasture land is given about 100 kilograms of calcium nitrate per hectare. In normal years this cycle is repeated four or five times. Thirty-four milch cows and from 22 to 25 young heifers are pastured, and two or three colts are introduced along with the heifers.

The pastures on this farm are thoroughly fertilized. Four quintals of phosphorous fertilizer are applied per hectare in the fall, as well as 2.5 to 3 quintals of potash. In order to maintain humus in the soil, 120 - 150 quintals of cattle manure are applied to each hectare at least every 4 or 5 years. Every fourth or fifth year from 20 to 25 quintals of ground lime are applied per hectare. In the spring the pastures which are to be grazed first are given 200 kilograms of ammonium sulfate per hectare.

Milk production on the state farm is very good and would be better if there were more solid foods such as seed cake, etc. The average milk production of 33 milch cows in 1948 was from 2500 to 4979 liters per year, with a very good average fat content of 4.1 percent.

The Branky state farm is about 350 meters above sea level. The farm contains 108.55 hectares of agricultural land, of which 75.69 hectares is arable land, 1.21 is hay fields, 22.55 fattening pasture, 1.35 is gardens, 1.95 is woods, 4.14 is grazing land, .71 is fenced-in land, .97 is roads, etc., and 1.22 is runs for farm animals. The soil is mostly fourth and fifth class.

The farm is near Valasske Mezirici in hilly, wooded country. It is largely open to the north and sheltered from the south by woods.

There are 83 head of cattle now, thirty-four of which are milch cows, 5 pregnant heifers, and one breed bull. There are 97 pigs, five of which are sows.

During the Two-Year Plan, attempts were made to raise young cattle at Branky. Two bullocks and five heifers were selected. From May to September they were pastured under good conditions, since they gained an average of .61 kilogram per head per day.

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